





# THE AFRICAN REPOSITORY,

---

VOL. VII.

JULY, 1831.

No. 5.

---

## Speech of Mr. Williams.

WE publish the following speech delivered before the Colonization Society of Brooklyn, New York, on the 21st of May, 1831, with confidence that its merits will be obvious to every reader—that it will be admired, not less for the force and justness of its sentiments, than for the beauty of its illustrations, and the eloquence of its language. Mr. Williams (of New York city) said that he had been requested to offer the following resolution.

*Resolved*, That the former participation of this country, in the wrongs inflicted on Africa, by means of the slave trade, imposes on us, as a Christian people, the obligation to promote the efforts which are making for her civilization, by means of establishing Colonies of free people of color, from this country, on her territory."

The claims of the Colonization Society, in its bearing upon the interests of Christianity, afford a theme to which the thoughtful mind may turn with deep and solemn earnestness. Dangerous as it is ever to permit religion to be linked with a secular party, and anxious as every man venerating the ark of God, will be to guard it from being brought into the ranks of political strife, or profaned by the rude touch of partizanship, it yet behoves the humblest individual who has laid upon it the hand of a trembling hope, to visit often the home he has fixed for it. He will delight by the unseen standard carried in his inmost heart, to measure every scheme; he will look at every enterprise in its religious effects; and over his whole conduct he will seek to throw the mellow and holy influence of that truth which he has lifted aloft as the chosen lamp of his pathway.

To the student of the scriptures, the thought must often recur, how singular and how awful in their character are the views which that book

inculcates as to national guilt and its punishment. The certainty and severity of the doom that oppression plucks down upon its own head, and the curse that tracks with staunchest step, the course of pride and luxury, are written on the face of revelation. They are visible too, in all history. The importance of morality to ensure national prosperity, is a truth which has been fully recognized in the International Law of the civilized world, although in the more modern science of political economy, it seems to have been strangely neglected. Nations, it has most justly been said, are the creatures of earth, they have no after existence, and for them there remains no future retribution. They are therefore punished or rewarded with an exactness and a certainty, greater than that which we can trace in the history of the individual, for to him is reserved a future being, and an eternal doom. Prosperous in crime, he may escape all earthly visitation, and seem to have defied with impunity the laws of Providence; but, it has never yet been thus with nations. Sure as the bolt of heaven, and often as suddenly, the hand of vengeance has fallen on the rapacious, the unjust and the profligate communities of antiquity, until the whole earth has become scarred with the curses provoked by the obstinacy, folly and viciousness of man. And if the guilt of nations has been ever sorely visited on their individual subjects, although most of these were born to serve and not to control their age; the guilt of a republic must be the heavier, from the fact, that each man is there in his degree a governor, and bears his share in creating or upholding the injustice that is to be punished.

In this view, no true patriot can look but with alarm, to the injury and degradation which have been inflicted most wrongfully and cruelly by the inhabitants of America and Europe, on the tribes of Africa.

To rid the Union of this great and increasing evil, slavery, has to the wisest of our statesmen seemed the most difficult problem in American legislation.

In the formation of the American Colonization Society, many who have observed it, have hailed at least one omen of good, such as had not before been granted them. Their brethren at the South, seem to have become willing to discuss the questions connected with our coloured population, and more ready to admit and lament the evils growing out of it.—Heretofore, irritated by reproaches often more zealous than just, and feeling perhaps in secret an alarm which they were reluctant to declare, they appeared to look with suspicion and anger on those who offered them either their counsel or their commiseration. With a resemblance to that despair which sometimes leads the man suffering under a hopeless malady to conceal and deny its existence, and to reject with scorn and hate the expressions of kindness or the mention of relief; many of their number denied that slavery was an evil, defended its justice, counted its advantages, and contended that they had little to regret or to

fear, except the ill judging sensitiveness and the disordered imagination of their more Northern neighbors. Happily for the cause of humanity and of man, that day and its delusions seem passing away. And the more free intercourse of thought, the restoration of mutual confidence, and the reviving sense of a common interest which this Society seems awakening, are in themselves blessings well repaying all the labours of the Institution. The North also, has learnt to look upon the subject with more sobriety and kindness of feeling, and to remember how easy it is for us to commend and require sacrifices in which we are to bear no share, and that it is one of the most common forms of self-deception, for us to withhold from our own conduct, the nice and rigid scrutiny which true virtue demands, and then to satisfy the conscience by reserving the whole mass of our virtuous indignation, that we may pour its burning weight on the vices and defects of our neighbours.

The object at first of suspicion alike to the master of slaves at the South, and the friends of the negro at the North, the Society moved with embarrassed and halting steps. But her plans as they developed themselves, proved that they needed no better advocate than a full explanation. The favor of Heaven seems to have followed her; and each successive month from a wider circuit, seem coming to cheer and to aid her the streams of bounty and the voice of blessing. Her objects are large in extent, but harmonious in their nature. Not only does she hope that slavery may be mitigated and finally abolished, but also to benefit by removal to a land of equal privileges, the free coloured population, who have not yet been able by their evident improvement, to break down the strong prejudices of our race, or, fully to assert the liberties we nominally allow them. She calls them to a home, where they are not merely free-men by law, but where they are delivered from that chain here existing, which no laws can break, a chain like that of the caste in India, with links invisible to the eye, but felt through ail society, and dragged along from the cradle to the tomb. In addition to all this, the Society sends out to wronged, and plundered, and bleeding Africa, a republic of equal laws, administering the justice, and imparting the liberty of American civilization; a cultivated community enriching, alike by the wealth of commerce and the wealth of science, the helpless and impoverished country which was once visited, but for the purposes of tobacco and murder;—a Christian community carrying the balm of salvation, and publishing to the degraded worshippers of fetiches and greegrees, the wonders of that Gospel which smote the gorgeous and profligate idolatry of ancient heathenism, and hurled from their high places the idols, in whose dark shadow the earth had slumbered long and fearfully.

In this view and merely as aiming at the establishment of a religious and free Colony on the shores of Africa, the object is one commending itself to the benevolent of every name. It seeks to plant a scion from the

most prosperous republic of the West, in the least cultivated but most accessible fields of the East. It is opposing civilization in its most perfect form to barbarism in its most degraded but least obstinate form. It is adding another to the line of posts which shall at last fence Africa from the incursions of the slave-trader. It is giving to the Christian Missionary, another foothold on the plains of error, and opening for him a thousand diverging pathways into the heart of the dominions of idolatry and superstition.

The past history of Africa, has been one of long and deep suffering, of ignominy, of outrage and of crime. Passing the days when Egypt taught the arts to Greece, and Carthage gave laws to the commerce of the world, her tale has been one of sorrow broken by few intervals of happiness or rest. The continent has lain, like some huge and passive victim, with darkness throned like an incubus on its bosom, whilst every reptile of evil omen and hateful form preyed and bled on its palsied extremities. Even within the last century such was her condition. At the North, the conflicting interests and crooked policy of Europe, had permitted an organized system of piracy. Egypt, since the days of Cambyses, a tributary province, was the prey of the rapacious Mamluke. In Abyssinia, the lamp of Christian truth glimmering in its socket, threw its flickering beams on a degraded and brutalized population. In the regions to the South of her, ignorance and barbarism had only been consolidated and established by her union with Mahometanism. At the Southern Cape, human nature was seen in some of its most degraded forms in the Hottentot and the Bushman. Whilst on the West, were the slave factory and the slave ship, staining alike the land and the sea, and bringing the worst traits of civilized man to the homes of savage ignorance and simplicity.

We look forth, and the gladdings of day seem breaking along the shores of Africa. The telegraphic cable, which has for so many centuries rolled Westward, seems sending back tidings to its native East. At the North, civilization has dislodged the Algerine, whilst further Eastward, it seems struggling into second life beneath the awful shade of the pyramids. Into Abyssinia, the Christians of Great Britain, are seeking to send the perfect volume of Inspiration, and its living preachers. In the populous Island of Madagascar, British influence has effected much in the cause of knowledge and piety. At the Southern extremity of the continent, the wilderness is beginning to bloom beneath the hands of the Moravian, the Methodist and other Missionaries, whilst the Colonies of England are multiply-<sup>ing</sup> and spreading. On the West, Sierra Leone and our own Liberia seem to be the rich and vigorous root, and spreading over the wide and long and headlong branches. Looking at these, and remembering the holy principles of the men who planted them, telling over the names of the good men who have poured out their lives as a living sacrifice, remembering in whose name these infant

settlements were first begun, and to whose care they have been continually commended, the Christian cannot but indulge a hope that swells into exultation. He recalls the days when Africa boasted her fathers and her councils, when the Mediterranean shores of that continent counted Tertullian, the earliest of the Latin fathers; Cyprian, the orator and the martyr, Arnobius, the apologist for Christianity; Victorinus, and the eloquent, the fervid, and the holy Augustine;—when Alexandria had her Origen, the learned and the zealous; her Clement, and her Athanasius, who, for the truth's sake, stood up against the world. The mind turns back to the days yet more distant, when the sons of Africa displayed abilities of which, the very existence is now denied; when they reared the pyramids and hewed the catacombs; when her Sesosteis and her Tirhakah invaded Asia; when her Hanno ranked his name amongst the most adventurous and successful of ancient voyagers; when her Hannibal and her Jugurtha defied the power of Rome, in the age of the iron-handed republic; and when her Julia added to the fame of the warrior that of the scholar. By a quick transition, the memory recurs to the virtues and talents of the Foulah and the Mandingo nations, as described by Park, and we begin to feel that we have done wrong to our brethren, slandering the race we have plundered, and endeavouring by calumny and scorn, to trample out and cover over our tracks of blood.

Capable as the people of Africa are of great things, they have not heretofore been approached in the best mode. Much as philosophers have speculated on the powers of commerce to refine and elevate, Christianity has laboured whilst they have dreamed. And it is to the influence of this religion in its purer forms as exhibited in Liberia, that we must look for the most powerful effects in taming and moulding the savages that surround the Colony. A system of novel practices, new tastes and new laws, Philosophy cannot impose on the barbarian, because she has no means for creating a desire for them, and no mode of making tangible the value of them. But the one true religion has a voice which finds its echo in every conscience, while she carries her errand of love written upon her brow. Her aim is not at the mind only, but at the heart. She wins the soul, and then she fires the intellect, expands, cherishes, and directs it, until the rude bondswoman, savage and filleted, rises unfettered, illuminated, ennobled and regenerated, a man, a freeman and a Christian. The story of Aicaner, the freed-woman of Namacqua, is a triumphant instance of the humanizing and elevating influence of the Gospel. And remembering that the Christian Missionary has been amongst the foremost pioneers of discovery in Southern Africa; who shall say but that for this religion and for her heralds pursuing their fearless journeys of charity, is reserved honor which British enterprise has so long sought in vain, while from the Western, the Northern, and the Eastern borders of the continent, Park, Clapperton and Blackman with our own Ledyard, have

sought so eagerly and fruitlessly to unveil the hidden mysteries of Inner Africa.

But, of the value of the colony to one country by its religious influence, and to both by its commerce, there can be little doubt. Among those who have looked most coldly on the labours of the Colonization Society, may be numbered the man of true benevolence, who have yet doubted its efficacy as a means of freeing the Union from slavery. That it has already done much in encouraging emancipation, is a fact no longer to be disputed. That if favored of God it promises to do much more, is no less certain. And great as to the doubting and fearful the whole task to be accomplished may seem, let it be remembered that every day of delay increases, and every day of exertion lessens the amount of the task. And inaction is not allowed us. There is no safety in the folded arm or the failing heart. And it is not to be forgotten, either by those that hail or those who as yet question the practicability of this enterprise, that on the side of every humble and true-hearted reformer, there is one sure and mighty ally,—Heaven, that Heaven which for those who labour and venture, has ever raised up unexpected aid, and to those who linger and doubt, has sometimes granted the fulfilment of their worst fears and the accomplishment of their gloomiest predictions.

Of the known and allowed difficulties, the number is continually lessening. It has been shewn that the expense of transportation was greatly overrated, as that of liberality had been greatly underrated. It has been rendered probable that the costs of the voyage will yet be greatly diminished, and that the success of the present means will prompt to the invention of new modes of effecting the object. The error has been pointed out of reasoning from the present partial excitement of feeling and the present limited means, and of applying these deductions as the standard of what may be done in times of more general and active feeling. Besides this, there is reason to believe, that were a vent for the fruits of emancipation provided, there are slave States which would thin their own negro population, until emancipation would become first popular, then general, and at last universal. And if, by securing a home for the emancipated, but three States—if but one be brought to abolish slavery within their borders, the Union is richly benefitted and strengthened, and the dangers of the remaining slave States greatly lessened.

But to return to our hopes. It has been said of the good man, by a great poet of our own times, that when all other friends fail him, there are three which do not forsake him—

"God, and his conscience, and the angel Death."

Of every good design may it not be said that it has three points of reliance and sources of hope—



“God, and man’s conscience, and the angel Truth.”

The lapse of years will weaken the prejudices and remove the obstructions that at first rise up in the path of every benevolent enterprise. The conscience of man will at last speak, though interest strive to bribe, and passion to stifle its utterance, and to that hidden power every righteous plan will at last commend itself. And if in humble reliance on the Author of all good, they who are called by his name appeal to Him, they need no other ally, and should fear no foe. It is not for man, weak and narrow as is his vision, to pronounce decisively on the future and scanning the designs of Providence, to fix with overweening confidence the allotted destiny of this Institution. But if the blessing of Heaven rest on this scheme of good, it shall prosper. That we should seek and hope for it, none who duly reckons the fearful debt we owe to injured Africa can doubt. For our own sakes no less than for her, should we wish it. The same Scriptures, which turning to Africa, appeal for one testimony of their truth, to the fulfilment of the curse pronounced on Ham, shall soon in the same field gather another argument from the accomplishment of the prediction, which speaks of Ethiopia as “*stretching forth her hands unto God.*” If those hands shall still be bound, if in her supplication she shall lift to high Heaven the galling manacle and the ensanguined chain, we cannot but fear a heavy woe for the people whose name shall in that hour of retribution be found stamped on the collar of her servitude. Shall we not rather hope that the lock will ere then be snapt, and the fetter broken, and that not in the appeal of sorrow, but in the benediction of gratitude, the hands of Ethiopia shall be lifted on high and prove prevalent with Heaven. And never may the anxiety of the friends of this object flag, or their labours pause, until the leaves of our national history, which are now blurred with the weeping, and stained with the blood of Africa, shall be wet with the softer tears of her gratitude, and followed by the voluminous record of the benefits with which we have sought to make compensation for our injustice;—until, instead of the slave ship which once, like the shark that is wont to accompany it, prowled along her harbours in quest of human prey, there shall be seen the American trader, hailed as a friend and a brother, whilst as he floats along her palmy coast, he shall catch the hymns of his own home sung beneath an equinoctial sky to the simple melodies that he learned amid the scenery of his youth;—until Liberia shall have proved herself to Africa, what Plymouth has been to us, the first of a family of Colonies that have now spanned the continent, thrown back their widening bounds to the shores of the opposite Ocean, and won for themselves a national flag, floating in honour and in power over every sea.

## New York Address.

*To the People of the State of New York, and especially to the  
Officers and Ministers of Churches.*

In behalf of the New York State Colonization Society, undersigned beg leave to renew their annual appeal to several religious congregations in this State, who are hereby most respectfully but urgently requested to make collections in aid of the *American Colonization Society*, on the Sabbath preceding or subsequent to the ensuing 4th of July. The monies collected may be either remitted to Richard Smith, Esq. treasurer of the Parent Society, Washington; or to Richard Yates, Esq. cashier of the New York State Bank, at Albany, the treasurer of the State Society. It is also recommended to the friends of African colonization, that Societies be formed in the several congregations, Auxiliary to the State or to some local Society, for the purpose of disseminating information on this important subject, and of giving greater efficiency and success to the exertions of its patrons.

It cannot be necessary, in this place, to enter into an extended statement of the objects of the American Colonization Society; nor to enlarge on their connection with the interests, not only of our own country, but of Africa and the world. The following suggestions will, it is hoped, be sufficient to give weight and success to our present appeal.

1. The colored population of the Union now, amounts to more than two millions, of whom all but about 300,000 are slaves.

2. The existence of slavery among us, though not at all to be objected to our southern brethren as a fault, is yet a blot on our national character, and a mighty drawback from our national strength. Every good man ought to desire its removal, as soon as may be consistent with justice and humanity.

3. Those persons of colour who have been emancipated, are only nominally free: and the whole race, so long as they remain among us, and whether they be slaves or free, must necessarily be kept in a condition full of wretchedness to them, and full of danger to the whites. This view of the subject is

rendered the more alarming by the rapid increase of this portion of our population.

4. Their removal to Africa, whilst it would carry to that continent many of the improvements of civilized and christian life, would relieve our country from the greatest evil to which it is exposed.

5. The history of the American Colony at Liberia, and of the Society which founded it, has shown, that coloured persons born in the United States, soon become naturalized to the climate of Africa, and are capable of keeping up the institutions of civilization, with advantage to themselves and to the world.

6. The expense of transportation, which at first was more than \$100 for each person, is now reduced to about \$20, and as the commerce of the Colony increases, will be still more reduced.

7. Many more free persons are ready to emigrate, than the Society can transport; and many benevolent slave-holders are prepared to emancipate their slaves, as soon as the Society shall be enabled to receive them.

8. Independently of the direct benefits to be derived from the colonization of our coloured population on the coast of Africa, it is probably the only method by which the natives of that country can be civilized, and the slave trade suppressed.

It is on these grounds, all of which are believed to be well founded, that the American Colonization Society appeals to the patriot, the Christian and the philanthropist, for their liberal and continued patronage.—We would earnestly second that appeal. Not that we suppose that the entire removal of our coloured people can be speedily effected by a voluntary association. We indulge no such chimerical ideas. The great national evil, which we are anxious to remedy, has been the growth of many generations; its complete removal will doubtless require more than one. Nor can it ever be accomplished, except by the direct application of the resources of the General and State Governments. But we look forward to the time when these governments will be enabled, in a manner at once constitutional, satisfactory and just, to direct their undivided energies to this great object. This, however, cannot be done, and in our judgment, ought not to be attempted, until the people of

this country shall become generally convinced of the truth and importance of the propositions above enumerated. When that period shall come—and come it surely will, if the business of colonization be pursued by private benevolence, with energy and wisdom—the State Governments will cheerfully apply their utmost efforts to the accomplishment of what will then be felt to be a great national object; and the powers of the General Government will either be enlarged with direct reference to this end, or all doubt as to its authority will be removed by the spontaneous expression of the popular will. The glorious spectacle will then be presented to an admiring world, of a whole nation returning from captivity, and bearing with them to their father land, the blessings of knowledge, christianity and freedom!

It is, as we confidently believe, the high office of the American Colonization Society, to prepare the way to this great and beneficent result; and thus believing, we ask our free fellow citizens, in connexion with the ensuing anniversary of their own independence, to remember and respond to the claims of that Society.

JOHN SAVAGE, *President.*

*Managers.*

BENJAMIN F. BUTLER.

H. BLEECKER.

CHARLES R. WEBSTER.

J. D. HAMMOND.

JOHN WILLARD.

RICHARD V. DEWITT, *Secretary.*

RICHARD YATES, *Treasurer.*

ALBANY, May 28, 1831.



## **Agency of the Rev. H. B. Bascom.**

This Gentleman, it will be seen, has recently visited New Orleans.—The following short letter will show the success which has attended his efforts.

NATCHEZ, Miss. May 5, 1831.

REV. AND DEAR SIR:—Enclosed is a check for \$700. My success has been entire in this State, and I am likely to accom-

plish much. I have formed several Societies, and it is probable a *State Society* will be formed in this place in a short time.—It is thought best for this proposition to have its origin with the citizens, and not come from an Agent. I could, however, succeed in the formation of one, even now, but have concluded to omit it, as some seem to think it best.

I accomplished something for our cause, but with great difficulty, in New Orleans.

Our cause, though triumphant, has some bitter enemies. On leaving the State, say three weeks hence, I shall report more fully.



## Fourth of July.

“THURSDAY, June 2d, 1831.

“The General Assembly again call the attention of the churches under its care, to the efforts now making to colonize the free blacks of this country on the Western coast of Africa; and affectionately commend them to their earnest attention and zealous support; and it is particularly recommended to the Presbyterian Churches throughout the United States, to take up collections in aid of the American Colonization Society, on or about the Fourth of July.”—*Extract from Proceedings of the General Assembly of Presbyterian Church.*

We inserted in our last number the Resolutions of the *Clergy of the City of New York*, expressing their purpose to solicit contributions in their churches, *annually*, about the Fourth of July, to aid the Colonization Society, and inviting their Brethren of every denomination throughout the Union, to adopt the same charitable measure. We rejoice to know that several of the *Auxiliary State Societies* have addressed circulars to the clergy within their respective States, requesting them to consider and promote the objects of our Institution, by publicly explaining them to their congregations, and inviting those donations which are necessary to their accomplishment. One of these circulars, issued by the New York State Society, appears in our present number. While our friends at a distance then, are doing so much to secure *the consent of the Ministers and churches of all denominations, to make contributions annually, on or near the Anniversary of our National Independence, to promote*

*the colonization of our coloured population*, we cannot omit to express briefly our reasons for the opinion, that the general adoption of this plan of Fourth-of-July collections would prove far more efficient than any, perhaps than all others, in carrying into effect the design of the Society. From many observations, and no inconsiderable acquaintance with public sentiment in regard to this Society, we are convinced that let its design—the practicableness and utility of it—its perfect consistency with the rights and interests of all classes—be well understood, and the people of the United States will almost universally come forward to encourage and sustain it. In no other way however, can the views and purposes and proceedings of the Society, be so generally made known, and so fully explained to the public, as by the clergy, should they agree to consider its history and devote one part of a single Sabbath each year in communicating the information thus acquired to their respective congregations. And by no single measure, do we believe, could an equal fund be obtained to carry the benevolent design of the Society into effect, as by inviting its friends, on the occasion thus set apart for its consideration, to contribute what they might deem right and proper for its advancement.

The Fourth of July is consecrated to the grateful and joyous recollections of our National Liberty and Independence. Is it not appropriate to remember on such a day our fellow men who share not in the blessings, the origin of which we commemorate? Is it not right, that on such occasions, we should do something for the relief of those, who, without our aid, will remain degraded in condition, and with hardly the hope or prospect of improvement? And when on the sacred day of God which precedes or succeeds this glorious anniversary, what better tribute can we offer to Him who governs the nations, than by the exhibition of our charity, towards those, who, like ourselves, are the objects of his goodness and grace, to show that we are not insensible to his example—that we would imitate this example, by conferring upon the miserable, the choicest gifts of Heaven? The Colonization Society has commenced a work, which must be finished, if finished at all, by the wisdom and powers of the nation. But never will the national strength be applied to this work, until the voice of the people shall demand, and then will

this demand be made when the public mind shall see and feel that it is worthy of the efforts of a great and enlightened people.



## Discovery of the Course of the Niger.

Intelligence has recently arrived, from Rio Janeiro, of the return of Messrs. RICHARD LANDER and JOHN LANDER from the interior of Africa, and we are assured that the great problem in geography in regard to the course and termination of the Niger is now solved—that these two individuals embarked on this river at the place where Park lost his life, and sailed down the stream to the Bight of Benin. The books, letters, manuscripts and double barrelled gun of Park were recovered. They found the current of the Niger to flow about four miles an hour and to divide itself into several branches before discharging its waters into the ocean. It is ten miles wide just above the place of this division, and the largest branch which enters the sea is the Nonn (or nun.) The country through which these travellers passed, is very beautiful and fertile, and the inhabitants although Mahometans more tractable and civilized than those who reside nearer the coast. Many difficulties, were encountered by the Landers, and at one time they were taken and treated as slaves, but their prudence and forbearance and the blessing of Providence have enabled them to effect an object, for which many an enthusiastic traveller has sacrificed his life.

We wait anxiously for further information in regard to this famous river and the discoveries which have been made by these enterprising and fortunate travellers. Whether the Niger has sufficient depth of water to admit of the ascent of vessels for some hundred miles, and whether or not its course is obstructed by falls is not stated. It must have a course of from fifteen hundred to two thousand miles through the most productive and populous region of Africa, and should it prove navigable for steamboats or for vessels of considerable burthen, the advantages for trade will be immense, and we may expect soon to hear of American or European establishments far in the interior of Africa. The Colony of Liberia will possess the best

advantages for ascertaining all those things, and for developing and turning to profit the resources of this great and productive continent. We can see no good reason why the U. S. Government should not fit out an expedition to explore the Niger, and to establish friendly relations with the more powerful tribes or nations of Africa. Men of Colour in Liberia, whose constitutions are suited to the African climate, would readily engage in such an expedition and benefits incalculable might result both to our commerce and to the cause of African civilization. May we live to know that a line of steamboats is established on the Niger by American enterprise or American benevolence, and that not only articles of traffic, but the Bible and the arts, the teacher and the minister of Christ, are going forth to their work of grace and of triumph over the ignorance, sin and superstition of the people of Africa!



## **Extracts from Correspondence.**

*From a Gentleman in Kentucky.*

I have been this day informed that some of my coloured people are willing to go to Liberia. I wish to send ten or twelve as soon as an opportunity offers. Orleans is the most convenient port from this. When, and where from, will ships sail with coloured people to Liberia this year? I am willing to give them up as soon as they can be sent to Liberia, for I believe their situation, so long as I live is as agreeable, as if free, and to remain in the United States. I have a man who has laboured for himself for four or five years; he informs me, he has purchased his wife and will be ready to go with her this fall.

I am now in my 80th year, and unable to bear much fatigue or exercise. I will furnish them with clothes for one year, and give them some farming tools, and make them some advance in money to convey them to Liberia. If they could be conveyed to Richmond, Va. they could be easily conveyed to Norfolk, where opportunities of conveyance to Liberia frequently offer. Some who have husbands and wives not owned by me, I suppose will not be willing to go at any rate, but I shall endeavour to get to Liberia, all who can with propriety go.



*From a Gentleman in Virginia.*

Feeling anxious for the prosperity of the Society, I had thought ere this to have aided it more than I have done. Not being able to become a subscriber on the plan of Gerrit Smith, I have been endeavoring to associate myself with a few persons in my neighborhood, so as to add another subscriber to the plan of Mr. Smith, but have not yet been able to effect it, but still hope I will before very long, as I find the cause is gaining friends in this county, as well as elsewhere.

*From a Gentleman in Connecticut.*

A benevolent individual has put into my hand \$60 for the Colonization Society, and desired me to forward it to you.

*From a Clergyman in Kentucky.*

The friends of colonization have, as you are no doubt aware, great reason to be thankful for the prospects which are opening before us in Kentucky.

*From a Gentleman in New Jersey.*

The history of the enclosed donation of one hundred and thirty three dollars, to aid the grand and benevolent enterprise of African Colonization, is briefly this. About five years and a half since, a student of the Academy in this place, and native of the neighbouring town [of Newark, by the name of ————, died of consumption. He was a youth of ethereal spirit, who took a deep interest in the benevolent enterprises of the day, and especially in those which are designed to meliorate the condition of the unhappy children of Africa. He was the last surviving member of his father's family, and the relatives, who, at his decease, would legally inherit his property, he stated, did not need it. He was incapacitated by age to make a will, or he would doubtless have devoted all he possessed, as a free-will offering to the Lord. Shortly before his death, he requested the Gentleman at whose house he died, and myself, to commit to writing his earnest desire that \$300 of his property might be appropriated for the benefit of the coloured people of the United States, and \$200 in aid of Missions.—The heirs did not think proper to comply with his request. A few days since a son of one of them who inherited a

fifth part of the above sum, called on me and stated that he trusted God had recently been gracious to him and brought him out of darkness into His marvellous light, and that he could not rest till the duty, devolving on his father's family in consequence of the dying request of his cousin, was discharged. The amount herewith transmitted, is the principal with the interest on the same, since the property came into his father's hands. With my earnest wish that this may be instrumental in securing to your Society the remaining \$200 which the devoted youth above named, desired might be given to it, and that the cause of African Colonization, may receive more and more favour both from God and man, I am, &c.

*From a Gentleman in Georgia.*

I have from the commencement been friendly to the Institution, but I am sorry to inform you that prejudices are entertained against the Society in this state, by some citizens of intelligence and respectability. Any measure of eclat at this time, could hardly fail of producing injury to the cause of colonization. If the measures of the Society shall be conducted prudently, so that the free coloured population shall be withdrawn silently and sent to Africa, the good effects of this Society will be felt and acknowledged; and in a few years I think the law prohibiting emancipation will be repealed in this State at least, with a proviso that the slaves to be emancipated, shall within a determinate period, (say in one year) emigrate to Africa. Indeed in one case that has been brought under my judicial consideration, I have determined that emancipation on condition of emigrating to Africa, was not within the meaning or reason of the act prohibiting emancipation, and was not the mischief intended to be prevented by that act—The decision was made concerning the negroes of the late ————, of this county. The number of slaves unknown, but probably fifty. The will gives them the option to go to Africa, under the auspices of the Colonization Society. I do not know that they or any part of them have made their election. The Judges have determined to hold semi-annual conventions by way of commencing a court of errors, for which there is sufficient authority in the existing laws; although the Legislature have several times refused to organize a court of errors *ex nomine*. If this convention shall suc-

ceed in extending to the State the benefits of a court of error, I will take the first opportunity of bringing the question of emancipation for the purposes of emigration before it. If the convention supports my decision, there will be no need of legislative intervention.

*From an American Gentleman in Ireland.*

Whilst in Liverpool I was so very unwell, that I could not ascertain the fate of the Fredericksburg address. I will endeavour when I return there, to make inquiry.

The subject of negro slavery, is one of great interest with a large class in this country, and judging from the number of petitions sent to Parliament, the determination of the petitioners not to be satisfied with promises any longer; the probable reform in the organization of the House of Commons, and especially the progress of liberal principles in Europe, I should think that slavery in the British West Indies, could not last much longer. It was lately an absorbing question, but is now laid over for others, connected with the representation of the people, which naturally take precedence of it, and which, if carried, will open the way for this. As a Virginian, I have often been called upon to defend my country, for the slavery which it tolerates. I admit that it is against the law of nature, and the declaration of our Independence—that it is an evil, and is felt to be an evil by our slave-holders themselves—that Congress however cannot interfere, nor can the Legislatures of the slave states, until public opinion shall direct them; and that, for the present, therefore, nothing more can probably be done than to colonize the free, at the expense of individual benevolence. But after all that may be said, it is still declared to be a foul stain upon our national banner, and evinces an inconsistency in our republican principles, which it is hard to account for. O'Connel seldom forgets, in his speeches against slavery, to fling it in the teeth of the boasting American.

*From a Gentleman in Tennessee.*

Our State Society was formed under rather unfavourable auspices—and circumstances occurred soon after, which have hitherto prevented any efficient results. We are now determined to make every possible effort to aid the good cause. Opposition

is growing less virulent every day—and the example of Kentucky and Louisiana will accelerate our tardy movements, and add vigour to our counsels. The Society has many powerful and decided advocates in every section of this country—and I feel persuaded, that the great Mississippi valley will yet contribute its full proportion in furtherance of this truly national, and most philanthropic enterprise.



## Intelligence.

FORMATION OF AUXILIARY SOCIETIES.—We learn with pleasure that in February last, the citizens of Tompkins County, New York, formed a Colonization Society, Auxiliary to the Col. Society of the State, and that a subscription of more than \$100 has been obtained. The President of this Society writes, “the subject is new in this section of country, and we want more light to enlist the feelings of the community in the glorious enterprise.” The pamphlet recently published by the New York State Society, contains much information which will prove valuable to our Friends in Tompkins County.

On the 24th of November last, a Society was formed, Auxiliary to the State Colonization Society of Ohio, by the citizens of Beechwood, Preble County, entitled *the Colonization Society of Israel Township, Preble County, Ohio, Auxiliary to the State Colonization Society*. The following is the list of officers.

REV. A. PORTER, *President*.

REV. G. M'MILLAN, *Vice-President*.

JOHN CALDWELL, *Secretary*.

WM. RAMSEY, *Treasurer*.

*Managers.*

DR. G. BROWN.

DR. A. PORTER.

E. ELLIOTTE, SEN.

T. M'DILL, SEN.

J. ROBINSON.

“The Society consists of nearly one hundred and fifty members. The cause of Colonization is quite popular in this part of the country,” say the Committee, “and glad would we be to see it eliciting the exertions and influence of all classes of our citizens, until the moral sensibilities of all the commonwealths of this Republic should be aroused to a due consideration of the evils of slavery, in all their demoralizing effects. How desirable to see Congress aiding this noble cause, and patronizing the

Parent Institution at Washington. So soon as this shall be done, shall we see a generous nation endeavouring to compensate the wrong done to the unoffending and helpless sons of Africa."

---

ANNIVERSARY OF THE NEW YORK STATE COLONIZATION SOCIETY.—We mentioned in our last number, the Anniversary of this Society. We have just received an account of its proceedings, containing the very interesting statement and remarks of Harmanus Bleecker, Esq. and the short but impressive speech of M. C. Paterson, Esq. of New York City. We rejoice to see that this Society is moving forward with so much energy and success. We have inserted in our present number, the address of the Managers to the Clergy and Churches of their State, and we have no doubt that it will be answered by liberal contributions. Many of the members of this Society, as well as of that in the City of New York, have engaged in our cause with a degree of zeal and resolution which must prove productive of great results.

---

THE BENEVOLENT NEGRO.—The Rochester Observer states, that during the last winter when owing to the severity of the weather, and the extreme scarcity of fuel, wood was selling at \$24 a cord, application was made to the charitable to obtain relief for the poor. A Gentleman seeking to make collections, happened to call at the hut of a poor coloured man, and observed as he entered a considerable quantity of hickory wood, which upon inquiry, he found to belong to the occupant. The Gentleman offered to purchase, but the owner refused to sell; the price at which wood was selling was offered, but the coloured man declined selling it at any price—Having learned, however, that the wood was wanted for those who were suffering through the inclement season, the negro said, that if it was to be given to the poor, the applicant might have nine loads without pay, and nine loads more for the same price which he had paid for it in the fall, being about half the price which it would bring in the market. This noble-souled man of colour obtained his own living by a cart drawn by a single cow, and yet on this occasion, he unhesitatingly gave forty dollars' worth of wood for the relief of the distressed. Such a deed is most honourable to the man and his race, and deserves mention and remembrance.

---

A Gentleman writes to a Friend in New Bedford:—"I have been thinking this morning what I ought to do, and can do, to favour and increase the contribution. I have resolved, for myself, to abstain for the month of June, from tobacco, cider, coffee, tea, sugar, butter, cheese, pies, cakes, &c., and chiefly or wholly from fresh meat; and so far as my family will agree to abstain from these articles, I intend to contribute to the American Colonization Society."

The Editor of the New Bedford Weekly Register observes:—"The writer calculates that ten dollars will be the amount thus added to the contribution. If the objects of this Society are worthy such efforts and self-denial,—and we believe they are,—how ought those to act upon the subject who can, with comparative ease, and without self-denial, contribute many times the amount?"

---

[*From the Olive Branch.*]

ANNIVERSARY.—At the Anniversary of the Danville Colonization Society, Ky. on Saturday last, (the 21st May,) the following Resolutions were offered and adopted.

By J. A. JACOB,

*Resolved*, That a subscription be opened, under the direction of a Committee, to aid Robert S. Finley, Esq. in the freighting of a vessel with emigrants from Kentucky to the Colony at Liberia.

By JOHN GREEN, Esq

*Resolved*, That the Board of Managers be requested to prepare and circulate a petition to the Legislature of Kentucky, requesting the aid of the State by the appropriation of adequate funds, for the removal of the free people of the State to the coast of Africa.

*Resolved*, That we will give our hearty support in aid of the memorial now submitted to this meeting, and recommend it to the approbation and support of the members of this Society, and our fellow-citizens generally.

The following gentlemen were elected officers for the ensuing year.

JOHN GREEN, *President*.

*Vice-Presidents.*

WILLIAM MINFORD,		DOCT. FLEECH,
BEN. F. CRITCHFIELD,		DOCT. AYRES,
JAMES HOPKINS,		

*Managers.*

John Tompkins,		A. I. Caldwell,
J. J. Polk,		D. G. Cowan,
O. Garnett,		Robert Russell,
James Gillispie,		Thomas Barbee,

J. A. JACOB, *Secretary*.

WM. STUART, *Treasurer*.

The resolutions above we heartily recommend to our citizens. Mr. Finley's purpose of freighting a vessel with emigrants to Liberia from this State, we hail as the commencement of this glorious work among us, the termination of which, we have no doubt, will be the total removal of the whole negro race. We hope Mr. Finley will meet with due encouragement.

This proposition is the most important that was ever presented to the

people of Kentucky for their support. We trust our citizens will give it liberal aid.

The friends of Colonization have ever looked to the hand of Government as the only power adequate to effect this great purpose. Mr. Green's resolution proposes to ask the aid of our State Legislature. By a slight tax on slaves, which would not be felt by any one, a sufficient fund might be raised to remove every free negro in the State.

S. Finley, Esq. Agent of the Parent Society, proposes to endeavor to freight a vessel to Liberia with emigrants from Kentucky immediately, and our funds were offered to assist in the enterprise. The effort seemed to correspond with our own previous views and exertions. This Society have sent, we believe, the first emigrant from Kentucky, and we heartily wish success to Mr. Finley's exertions.

Our list of subscribers has somewhat diminished the present year; we are sorry to say that some have withdrawn their names, but we trust they will soon be supplied by others.

<i>Treasurer's Account.</i> —Disbursed for Mark's emigration,	\$50
Postage,	2
Mr. Clay's Speeches,	5
	—
Total,	\$37
Received into the Treasury the present year, including the	
amount on hand at the end of the last year,	\$133 59
	37 00
	—
Remaining in the Treasury,	\$96 59

**LIBERALITY.**—Benjamin F. Butler, Esq. of Albany, stated, in a recent speech before the New York City Society, that soon after the constitution and plan of the New York State Society were published, an anonymous letter was received by the Secretary of the Society, from a remote section in Ohio, enclosing the magnificent donation of FOUR HUNDRED AND TWENTY DOLLARS. The letter, said Mr. Butler, contained but a few lines, exhibiting little evidence of literary attainments, yet, should the name of the writer be known, it would deserve to be enrolled with those of Howard, Wilberforce, Clarkson, or Ashmun.

We are happy to see that our friends in Richmond have determined to renew their strength. Virginia has shown a deep interest in the cause of African Colonization, and we hope she will take the lead in promoting it.

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COLONIZATION SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA.**—At a meeting of the Colonization Society of Virginia, called and held in the Capitol, on

Thursday, the 19th of June, 1831, Judge Marshall, (President) having taken the chair;

Mr. Scott on behalf of the Board of Managers, presented their report, which being read, was on motion, approved and accepted.

The Treasurer's account from the 15th December, 1828, to this date, was presented duly certified, and on motion it was accepted. The account shows that the amount in the hands of the Treasurer on the 15th December, 1828, was

	-	-	-	-	-	\$642 60
And that he has since received from Female Societies,	139	17				
From Auxiliary and other Societies,	-	-	-	-	331	37
From Fourth of July collections,	-	-	-	-	258	13
From other donations,	-	-	-	-	227	53
					-----	956 20
From Life members,	-	-	-	-	-	70 00
From other members,	-	-	-	-	-	107 00
					-----	
Making a Total of	-	-	-	-	-	\$1775 80

*Disbursements.*—Remitted to the Treasurer of the American Colonization Society at sundry times, - 1713 50

Paid for printing the last Report, and proceedings, and sundry expenses, - 22 03

---

1735 50

Balance now in the hands of the Treasurer, - \$40 27

On motion of Mr. Heath,

*Resolved*, as the sense of this meeting, that the continued and increasing prosperity of the Colony of Liberia, and the success and growing popularity of the cause of Colonization in this country, abundantly evince the wisdom of the principle on which the Society is established, (of removing the free coloured persons to the land of their forefathers, with their own consent) as being efficient in full proportion to exertions made; and safe and beneficial to all parties concerned.

On motion of Mr. Scott,

*Resolved*, That this Society looks to the wisdom and munificence of our State as its chief resource for support and encouragement; and that the Managers be directed to make application for aid to our next Legislature, by memorial or otherwise as they may deem expedient.

On motion of Mr. Forbes,

*Resolved*, That the Auxiliary Societies within our State be invited to co-operate in such application to this Legislature; and further, that they be requested to send delegates to the Annual Meeting of this Society, which is to be held during next session of the Legislature, of which due notice will be given by the Managers.

On motion of Mr. Briggs,

*Resolved*, That in aid of the funds of this Society, the Rev. Clergy of



the various denominations are respectfully requested to take up collections in the churches, on or about the Fourth of July, to be paid over to Mr. Benjamin Brand, Treasurer.

On motion of Mr. Burr,

*Resolved*, That five hundred copies of the Report, together with the Constitution and Proceedings of this Meeting, be printed in pamphlet form, and that copies thereof be forwarded to all the Officers, Auxiliaries and Correspondents of this Society.

On motion of Dr. Blair,

*Resolved*, That the Editors of the several newspapers in this city and in other towns of this State, be requested to publish the report and proceedings of this meeting.

And then the meeting adjourned.

D. I. Bunn, *Secretary*.

*Richmond Herald*.

POPULATION OF BRAZIL.—The reader is referred to Walsh's "Notes on Brazil," for an exceedingly interesting statement of the population, &c. of that country. From this it appears that the number (divided into different *castes*;) in 1819, stood as follows:

Whites,	-	-	-	-	-	845,000
Free natives of mix'd blood,	-	-	-	-	-	426,000
Free blacks,	-	-	-	-	-	159,000
					-----	1,428,000
Black slaves,	-	-	-	-	-	1,728,000
Slaves of mixed blood,	-	-	-	-	-	202,000
					-----	1,930,000
Indians,	-	-	-	-	-	259,400
					-----	3,617,400

We add the following remarks upon this subject from the "Eclectic Review," as appended to Dr. Walsh's statement:

"The importation of slaves, which has been increasing 'in a proportion frightful beyond comparison,' under the new order of things, must also have swelled the aggregate population, unless we suppose that the waste of human life has been proportionately dreadful. During the last ten years, according to the return furnished by Dr. Walsh, upwards of 300,000 slaves entered the port of Rio alone; the imports having latterly risen from 15,000 to between 40 and 50,000 a year. The number imported into Bahia, is not given. In 1821, we know that it amounted to 3137, of whom 962 were re-exported to Rio de Janeiro and Rio Grande; and the number imported into Bahia during the first half of 1825, exhibited a similar proportion—supposing this to be the average number for the ten years, and making the necessary deduction for re-exportation to Rio, we

shall have to add from 20 to 25,000 slaves to the above estimate. If, then, the previous slave population of Brazil has not decreased in the same proportion, their total number must now considerably exceed two millions; say 2,200,000.—*G. U. Emancipation.*

BRITISH WEST-INDIA POPULATION.—The following table shows the relative proportion of the Whites, Slaves, and Free Blacks in the British West Indies, which will be read with interest:

<i>Chartered Col.</i>	<i>Whites.</i>	<i>Slaves.</i>	<i>Free Blacks.</i>
Bermuda,	5,500	4,650	500
Bahamas,	4,000	9,500	2,800
Jamaica,	15,000	531,000	40,000
Virgin Isles,	860	5,400	607
St. Christopher's,	1,800	19,500	2,500
Nevis,	800	9,000	1,800
Antigua,	2,000	30,000	4,500
Mount-Serra,	500	6,000	700
Dominica,	800	14,500	3,600
Barbadoes,	15,000	81,000	5,000
St. Vincent's,	1,300	23,500	2,000
Grenada,	800	24,500	3,700
Tobago,	350	12,700	1,200
<i>Crown Colonies.</i>			
St. Lucia,	1,100	13,500	4,000
Trinidad,	13,500	23,000	16,000
Honduras,	300	2,450	2,800
Demerara,	3,000	70,000	6,000
Berbice,	600	21,000	1,000
C. Good Hope,	43,000	35,000	29,000
Mauritius,	8,000	76,000	15,100
Total,	108,150	812,700	143,707

THE BLACK ASTRONOMER.—In the year 1739, and for several years afterward, Benjamin Banneker, a black man of Maryland, furnished the public with an Almanac, which was extensively circulated through the Southern States. He was a self-taught astronomer, and his calculations were so thorough and exact, as to excite the approbation and patronage of such men as Pitt, Fox, Wilberforce, and other eminent men, by whom the work was produced in the British House of Commons, as an argument in favour of the mental cultivation of the blacks, with their liberation from their unholy thralldom.—*Lyon Mirror.*

## Captain Kennedy's Letter.

We are happy to acknowledge our obligations to one of our most intelligent and distinguished Naval Officers, the late Commander of the *Java*, for the following communication in regard to the affairs and prospects of the Colony of Liberia, which he recently visited on his return from the Mediterranean. It will be perceived that the opinions of Captain Kennedy have resulted entirely from his own inquiries and observations.

NORFOLK, *June 22, 1831.*

SIR:—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 11th inst. requesting my opinion of the condition, prospects, and necessities of the Colony at Liberia, and of the best method to be adopted by the Society for the more effectual prosecution of the great work in which they are engaged.

I hope I need not assure you that it affords me great gratification to comply with your request, and to lay before you a statement of the facts which presented themselves to me during the visit I made to Mesurado, in the Frigate *Java*, under my command.

The wisdom and talent which distinguish the councils of the Society to which you belong, and the vast materials which your experience and zeal have enabled you to collect, cause great diffidence on my part in the suggestion of any new plan of operations. I was however, not an idle observer during my stay among the Colonists, and the conclusions which pressed upon my mind, as the results of my inquiries, shall be most cheerfully submitted for your better judgment and consideration.

It may not be improper to observe in the outset, that my inquiries were commenced under ideas very unfavourable to the practicability of the scheme of your Society; for, while, I trust, I yielded unfeigned acknowledgment of the piety and purity of purpose which governed its worthy and disinterested projectors, yet, the vast difficulties attending the prosecution of their labours, and the very problematical results, in the want of success, left an impression upon my mind altogether unfavourable to the Institution—under these impressions, therefore, I commenced my inquiry with great caution. I sought out the most shrewd and intelligent of the Colonists, many of whom were personally known to me, and by long and weary conversations, endeavored to elicit from them, any dissatisfaction with their condition, (if such existed,) or any latent design to return to their native country—neither of these did I observe; on the contrary, I thought I could perceive that they considered that they had started into a new existence, that disincumbered of the mortifying relations in which they formerly stood in society—they felt themselves proud in their attitude, and seemed conscious that while they were the founders of a new Em-

pire, they were prosecuting the noble purpose of the regeneration of the land of their fathers.

I was pleased to observe that they were impressed with the vast importance of a proper education, not only of their children, but of the children of the natives, and that to this they looked confidently as the means of their high object, namely, the civilization of their benighted brothers of Africa.

I observed with great satisfaction, that their children in many instances, could converse in the languages of the tribes by which the Colony is surrounded. Thus the obstacles which formerly embarrassed its commerce with the interior, and which, by the by, are even now but few, must in a very short time cease entirely to exist. Most of the articles of traffic which can be profitably used in barter with the natives, are familiar to your readers; but there are yet some which have not employed the enterprise of our citizens, and of those embraced in their speculations, many improvements in quality might advantageously be enumerated. The inhabitants of King Boatswain's town, (one hundred and eighty miles up the St. Paul's river, and twenty miles from it, which empties in the bay of Mesurado) interchange with the most friendly dispositions towards the Colonists.

In the article of salt, more especially, most advantageous traffic is conducted, and yet susceptible of great increase: in bartering with that article, the Colonists readily receive in gold dust, ivory, dye-wood, &c. at the rate of two dollars per quart. It is to me a matter of astonishment, that our enterprising citizens have not sought in that particular article, a channel for the most profitable speculation. An extent of eight or ten leagues South West of the Cape, is well adapted for the making of salt by evaporation, with but comparative little labour,—one extended salt port. Indeed, the Isle of Mayo, (one of the Cape de Verds) only eight or nine days sail from the Mesurado, would furnish abundance of salt for the commercial purposes of the Colony, at a low price.

I would recommend for the better prosecution of this traffic, that the salt should be imported in iron pots and kettles of various sizes, as they would be disposed of at a very great price.

It is hardly necessary to say that guns, pistols, beads of various colours, checks and various coloured calicoes, flints, &c. constitute a source of abundant profit in this traffic. Powder, more especially demands attention; that which is received from foreign vessels (and I think very likely from our own,) is so damaged and worthless that it serves hardly any useful purposes; so inferior is it in strength, that the natives in their attacks upon the Elephant, are compelled to load the barrels of their pieces half-way to the muzzle, and for the leaden ball, to substitute a dart or spear, made expressly to fit the calibre of the gun; short muskets carrying a two ounce ball, (particularly if loaded in the breach like the late invented rifles,) would be found a most saleable article.

It can hardly be expected that I can throw any additional light upon this

part of my subject—and I will proceed to consider somewhat at large, the condition of the Colony, as regards the progress of its improvements, and its deficiency in certain articles of indispensable utility and necessity.

It is known to you that the Colonists are erecting a mill at the falls of the St. Paul's river. This has been for a long time a desideratum; but yet, for its more effectual operation on the affairs of the Colony, I would suggest, for the facilitating the descent of produce from above the falls to Millsburg, that a small steam boat of light draught be built, and employed to tow the produce boats and traffic boats to the falls, and up the river. From the falls to the mouth of the river, there can be no manner of difficulty in its transportation in boats manned by Kro, or Kroomen, natives of the coast, a hardy, industrious, honest, and intelligent race, nearly all speaking English. They are emphatically termed "the workers of the coast," and can be hired for 20 cents per day. Other changes and improvements in the affairs of the Colony occurred to me; many of these suggested themselves to me from conversations with the Agent, Dr. Mechlin, a gentleman of intelligence and admirable qualifications for the very important duties and responsibilities confided to him.

In the first place, the gun carriages of the fort, which commands the harbour, are in a state of decay; and in as much as the "dry worm" is in that climate exceedingly destructive to all "*dead wood*," or wood not growing, repairs will be always required at great expense and inconvenience.

To remedy this, I took the liberty of suggesting to the Hon. Secretary of the Navy, in my report, the experiment of substituting iron carriages for the artillery of the Colony.

Again, the colonial Schooner, as guarda costa, is totally unfit for the purpose for which it was designed, whether in size, armament, or in complement of men; she could neither resist the attacks nor prevent the operations of the numerous pirates and slavers that infest the coast. The present commander, Thompson, is a brave man, enterprising and competent—and with a schooner of 90 or 100 tons, manned with 40 men, shipped in the U. States for that service, and carrying a large 9 or 12 pounder a midships, and two 18 or 24 lb. carronades, would be fully able to carry into execution the purposes of the service in which he is engaged. Until the funds of the Society can furnish the means of carrying into effect this idea, I suggested to the Hon. Secretary of the Navy, the propriety of employing one of our national schooners, such as the Shark, or Porpoise, with a crew composed principally of blacks, as a regular cruizer for the protection of the Colonists, suppressing the slave trade, and of determining correctly, the lat. and lon. of *all* the head lands between Cape Anne, including Cape Anne Shoals (which are very extensive and dangerous), and Cape Palmas, or as far as the Island of Fernando Po, at the mouth of the river Cameroons, in the Gulf of Guinea. It is a fact, that none of the Charts that I have seen, indicate the correct longitude, or even latitude of

that part of the coast; they sometimes err from 5 to 10 miles in latitude, and from 8 to 30 in longitude.

There are many articles immediately wanted by the Colonists; for instance, a seine. I left one with them, which was considered as a very great acquisition, and should have left twine also for its repairs, but had none on board to spare. They require also rammers and sponges for their guns, cross-cut saws, and more especially one or two sets of "carry log" wheels, the tongs and axletrees can be procured there and a draft of them sent to them, that they may know how to complete them; the wheels should be such as those used in the Navy Yard at Gosport, having the tire covering from 4 to 6 inches; these are indispensable in clearing new and spongy ground, or for the purpose of transporting timber from the forests near Millsburg.

I would recommend, moreover, that all vessels bound to the Colony should touch at Port Praya, (Cape De Verds) and lay in a supply of vegetable seed, asses and sheep.

It gives me pleasure to state, that the Colonists are turning their attention to the cultivation of coffee. That this article of produce is to prove a source of vast wealth to the Colonists, there can be no doubt; the labor and expense of its cultivation will be comparatively small; indeed, they have but to clear away the forest trees and the plantations are ready to their hands. There are two descriptions of the plant indigenous—one a shrub, evidently the same as the Mocha, but yielding a berry of superior flavor; the other a tree, frequently attaining the height of 40 feet; a specimen of the latter, I brought with me to Cuba, in the Java, and left with Mr. Shaler, our Consul, for the Botanic garden of that city. I had also several of the shrubs or small growth, but they all perished by salt water getting to them.

That there are many vast resources, yet undeveloped in Liberia, no one can entertain a doubt; that they will soon be brought forth and made available by the enterprise and intelligence of the Colonists is equally unquestionable—how earnestly should then every philanthropist apply himself to aid and advance the operations of a society, the object of which is not only to elevate so large a portion of our fellow beings from the degrading relations in which they stand towards the rest of the human race—but to redeem from the thralldom of ignorance, superstition and vice, a whole continent. That these great results are under Providence to be accomplished, is a conviction to which I have been brought by actual experience and scrutinizing observation.

To those who have been the protectors of this undertaking, how enviable the joy derived from the anticipation, and when the happy result shall have been consummated what monument so glorious to their memory as the gratitude of millions disenthralled!

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

REV. R. R. GURLEY

EDWARD P. KENNEDY.

P. S. It would be well perhaps to state, that, in a conversation with one of the *Kro* or *Kroomen*, I was informed by him, that he came with his wife from Timbuctoo by water, with the exception of twenty-five miles, the distance that city stands from the Niger; he came down the St. Paul's to Mesurado.

In a few days I will take the liberty of sending you, through the Navy Department, an abstract of my cruise in the *Java*, from Mahon along the coast of Africa, and homewards through the W. Indies, which you can trace on a chart of the Atlantic. It may, I think, be useful to vessels returning from Liberia. Mr. Watson of Washington, late sailing master of the *Java*, will cheerfully assist, and give you such information on the subject as you may require. He is a young officer of great observation and an excellent navigator.

It is customary in leaving the Cape homeward bound, to clear along shore, endeavoring, by making short tacks, to receive the benefit of the land breeze and thereby get to windward out of the variables and into the trades, but it is a mistake, and also dangerous, as the currents are unsettled and may throw you on the shoals of Cape Anne; very green water extends from abreast Cape Anne shoals, to nearly Cape Mesurado, one hundred miles from the coast and no soundings—by keeping your wind on leaving the Cape and getting to the westward, even if you are driven as far south as the line, you will after passing through the variables in the *Thunder Sea* (so called by mariners owing to the incessant thunder and lightning and rain with but little wind—the appearance is truly awful, the Heavens and sea appear to be united by flame—this sea lies between 18th and 20th degrees of West longitude,) take the trades, increasing as you advance to the westward with delightful weather. I pursued that course in the *Java*, contrary to all the tracks on the charts and sailing directory. The authors, I think, know very little what they have written about.

The *Java* made from the Cape (notwithstanding we were becalmed near the coast six days) a remarkable short passage to St. Thomas.

I have been informed that the Ouring Outang has been repeatedly seen by the *Kroomen* on the Junk and other rivers, a crabbing with a rude basket and crab stick, both of his own make.

If this be a fact, I think the colonists might profit by domesticating them and employing them in their corn and rice fields. As they are not considered human beings, I see no reason why they should not be made to work as well as a Horse or an Ox.

Yours

E. P. K.

## Health of Liberia.

We have no confidence in a report, (made by the Captain of a vessel which has recently arrived at Salem,) of an extraordinary mortality among the emigrants which sailed in the Volador. We presume that this report has grown out of the fact, that of those who embarked in the two preceding vessels, a larger number than usual died. It should be recollected, however, that the mortality was confined almost entirely to persons from the upper country, and that the whole company by the Carolinian had suffered severely from the measles during the voyage.— The report of deaths by the Volador, comes from a vessel which is stated to have left Liberia on the 10th of April. We have received letters up to the sixteenth of March, which represent the whole company by the Volador as having passed safely through the fever, without the occurrence of *a single death*.— If the Salem report be true, this great mortality must all have been experienced in the short period of 24 days, after all the emigrants by the Volador had been pronounced by their Physician out of danger. We wish it not to be understood, however, that we believe colored persons from the northern, and the elevated regions of our middle states, can emigrate to Liberia without exposure to fever, which may, in some instances, prove fatal to life. While experience teaches us to expect that individuals from these parts will be more or less exposed to suffering from the climate, it also gives reason to hope that the suffering will be soon as the country becomes more open and cultivated, and the causes and nature of African fever become better understood. All travellers agree in representing the elevated country of interior Africa as healthy, and this will in a few years be the dwelling place of civilized men. Men of color from the lower country of Virginia and North Carolina, and from all the more southern states, may settle in Monrovia, without apprehension.

But it should not be forgotten, and it will not be by reflecting men, that the *evil* of occasional disease and death among emigrants to Liberia, affects but the individuals of a single generation, while the *good* attained by the establishment of Christian Colonies in Africa, is permanent and to bless a thousand



generations. No people enjoy better health than the natives of Africa; and the children of slaves here are now founding their settlements on the coast, with impunity. Would it have been wise in the pilgrims to New England, or in the daring band who first landed at Jonestown, to have abandoned their project, because of sickness and for fear of death? The Colonization Society desires no free man of color to emigrate to Liberia, who finds not motives of interest or of duty for so doing, convincing and satisfactory to his own deliberate judgment.—Men of thought, of energy, of fortitude, of benevolence, are alone prepared to labor successfully in enterprises which are to be realized only in their greatness and their glory, by a future age.

— \* \* \* —

### *Expedition to Liberia.*

The Brig *Criterion*, chartered at New York, will sail in a very few days for Liberia. The number of emigrants which will embark in her, is not precisely ascertained. For the means of despatching this expedition, the Society is indebted in great part, to the liberality of the New York Society. Any further applications for a passage, should be made, without delay, to John M'Phail, Esq. of Norfolk.

— \* \* \* —

### *Subscriptions on the Plan of Gerrit Smith, Esq.*

A venerable gentleman called at our office a day or two ago, and presented us with a hundred dollar bill, and requested that his name might be entered upon our books, as a subscriber on Mr. Smith's plan. This Gentleman observed, that he had long felt a deep interest in our colored population, and had some years ago emancipated all his slaves, about twenty five in number. Though the number of such subscription increases slowly, yet we do not despair of its completion.

## Contributions

To the American Colonization Society, from 30th May to 27th June, 1831.

John Brewster, of Franklin County, Pa. ....	\$5	
L. J. ....	9	
Grove Wright, of New York, as follows:		
Rev. J. Whittlesey's cong. Stonington, Conn. \$20		
Reuben Werchell's cong. Lockport, N. York, ..	6	
Thomas G. Smith, Farrington, N. Y. ....	11	
Rev. D. Lewes, Greenwich, Conn. per Z. Lewes, ..	29	57
Lewisville Col. So. Ky. per J. A. Frazer, Esq. Treas.		205 28
A benevolent individual, per James W. Lane, of New-London, Conn. ....		60
In part of a Legacy of \$500 left by John S. Johnston, a student of the Academy of Bloomfield, New Jersey,—paid by one of the heirs who originally claimed the Estate in consequence of the minority of the Testator, but who under a religious feeling, could not rest satisfied until the money which he took was applied with interest to the purpose contemplated by the deceased youth. This sum was received from Mr. Gideon N. Judd, of Bloomfield, with the earnest wish that the other heirs would pay the Society the amount left by the deceased youth. ....		
	133	
Indiana Col. Society, per Isaac Coo, Esq. Treasurer, ....	38	21
Donation from Benevolent Society of Rocky River congregation, Cabarras co, N. C. per J. Phiffe, Esq. ....		20
Collections by Rev. Wm. Winans, of Centreville, Mississippi, as follows, viz:		
Edward M'Gehee, Esq. third annual payment ..	100	
Doct. J. P. Thomas, in part payment of balance due on his second payment on plan of Gerrit Smith, Esq. ....	89	
Do. in part of third instalment on plan of G. Smith, Esq. ....	20	
Donation from Doct. C. H. Massour, a medical fee, ....	10	
by Mrs. Martha E. H. Scott, ...	1	
by Mrs. Agnes Lellies, ....	1	
by Rev Isaac V. Enoch, ....	5	
by Doct. J. W. Gibson, ....	5	
Subscription by Dr. R. Angell, ....	10	
Collection Fourth of July, by Rev. G. Hearn, ..	8	50
Wm Van Campen, Natchez, Mi. for the Rep.	2	
John G. Richardson, Centreville, Miss. per do.	4	
	\$246 50	
Deduct exchange paid by Mr. Winans, ..	1 23	245 27
Jacob Towson, of Williamsport, Maryland, 1st donation on the plan of Gerrit Smith, Esq. ....		100
Some person at Norwich, Chenango county, New York, who omitted to sign his name in the letter to Mr. Gurley,		10
		<hr/>
		\$882 76



